



PATZ & HALL

2014 DUTTON RANCH – RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY CHARDONNAY

Vineyard Character: Made with some of the oldest plantings of Chardonnay in western Sonoma County, this wine is predominantly a blend of California heritage clones and selections—Hyde-Wente, Robert Young, Rued, UC Davis clone 4 and Spring Mountain. Mostly dry-farmed, the vines struggle to produce small but intensely concentrated berries, making for great depth of flavor and texture. Historically, Dutton Ranch yields fragrant, tropical aromatics, underscored by a crisp mineral character.

Tasting Notes: The phenomenal 2014 growing season yielded a standout expression of Dutton Ranch Chardonnay with all of the lush, alluring flavors and exquisitely balanced acidity that we love about this site. Heirloom clone aromas of white flowers and jasmine are soon followed by exotic layers of mango and papaya, as well as notes of green apple and toasted hazelnut. On the palate, the dramatic flavors are knit together by a dusty textural note from the lees stirring that adds nuance and structure. Overall, this is a profoundly textural wine that captures both the charm and complexity of some of Sonoma County's oldest Chardonnay vines.

Winemaking:

100% Chardonnay fruit
Whole-cluster pressed
100% indigenous yeast
Sur lie aged with weekly stirring
100% malo-lactic fermentation in barrel
40% new Burgundian French oak barrels

Release Date: August 2015

THE PATZ & HALL FAMILY OF WINEGROWERS

Gail, Steve and Joe Dutton - Dutton Ranch - Russian River Valley, Sonoma County

In 1969, Warren Dutton planted some of the first Chardonnay vines in western Sonoma. Sons Steve and Joe Dutton, along with their mother Gail, carry on in Warren's footsteps with what is now one of Sonoma County's most successful vineyard operations. We are able to select from eight blocks of Chardonnay largely planted with California heirloom clones (Robert Young, Rued, Hyde-Wente and UC Davis clone 4) for the Dutton Ranch Chardonnay bottling.

James Hall
Winemaker